



# The Kosher Koala

Newsletter of the Australian Jewish Genealogical Society, Inc.

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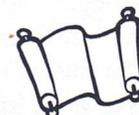
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## WASHINGTON DC 2003 REPORT

### Reported by Peter and Rieke Nash

The Conference overall was a great success with over 1000 registered. The venue was the Marriott Hotel in Pennsylvania Avenue which was centrally located for easy access to research archives, the Library of Congress and the Holocaust Museum. The facilities for lectures, SIG meetings, the Banquet and resources were excellent as were the hotel services and appointments.

The program organization left little to be desired except for the usual and increasing problem of choosing the lecture/meeting from two or more simultaneous events with the program commencing at 8 am and ending at about 9 pm. Each registrant received a hard copy as well as a CD-Rom of the syllabus. The Resource Room had some specially obtained Mormon films, reference books, etc. while the Cyber Classroom offered about 30 terminals with on-line access to Ancestry.com, and databases from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's holdings. There were also nine on-line terminals available for free access to one's email server if required. The themes and topics covered the whole Jewish genealogy world and were aided by some outstanding lecturers and presentations. A room for purchase of resources and other genealogy-related materials was always open while authors were also on hand for book-signings.

There were several enthralling presentations. Amongst these were "Doing the Immigration Dance – HIAS and INS Case Files" given by Valery Bazarov, Location and Family History Specialist (Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society/HIAS) & Marian L. Smith, Historian (Immigration and Naturalization Service). Case files of refusal for entry into the United States (mostly at Ellis Island, New York) from the archives of HIAS and INS were presented in sequence by Bazarov, on behalf of the defence for the refugee, namely HIAS, and Smith on behalf of the adversary, the INS who rejected entry. The examples were only a few of the thousands on file filled with strange twists and turns and mostly successful outcomes.

A very articulate and easy to follow talk was given by John P. Colletta, a Washington-based genealogist who teaches at the National Archives, Smithsonian Institution and area universities. He covered the often difficult to navigate topic of "U.S. Passenger Arrival Records" – in two consecutive presentations: "The Basics" and "Beyond The Basics". If one has ever been stuck in negotiating or even finding the right U.S. passenger lists then the guidelines presented by Colletta

would surely yield the right outcomes. He was definitely one of my favourite speakers.

Stephen Morse had already become a "household name" in Jewish genealogy in the last year or so. The inventor of the original Intel 8086 PC chip, is in his own words an "amateur genealogist" but he developed the One-Step Ellis Island (for New York arrivals) Website plus some other One-Step front-end aids to search engines (for example, the 1930 U.S. Census and the Mormon's on-line U.S. Social Security Death Index). His lucid presentations would make any hesitant internet user feel comfortable in handling the rapidly changing internet-aided genealogy world. Stephen gave three presentations: one dealing with Ellis Island arrivals, another with the 1930 U.S. Census and a fascinating third lecture on Creating Your Own One-Step Search Application. His enthusiasm for solving problems and willingness to consider suggestions was infectious. His website can be found at <http://stevemorse.org> and extracts from his talks can be found on the Conference CD.

Linda Cantor and Lucille Gudis, both on the New York JGS management committee, combined competently in giving the essential archives and repositories to visit for research in New York. Their presentation "*Only in New York*" highlighted where to find (in brief) Vital Records, Naturalizations, Court and Coroners' Records, Draft and Military Records, Probates and Wills, Landsmanshaftn, Jewish Organisations, etc.

Ron Arons from the San Francisco JGS gave an updated version of his presentation at last year's Toronto Conference, namely: "Using the Internet to Find Anyone and Anything". In a "not-to-be-missed" talk, he provided a comprehensive list of websites for locating people, records, directories, maps, translations, libraries, newspapers, photos, etc. He emphasized that while many sites are free, often the best results will come from fee-based services.

For those whose research hit a "brick wall", the professional genealogist, Eileen Polakoff, offered her words of wisdom in "*Brick Walls, Needles in Haystacks and Other Genealogical Obstacles*". Using case files she demonstrated how less orthodox approaches can yield results.

Another fascinating lecture was given by Harold Rhode. In *Rescue of Jewish Records and Holy Books from Baghdad* he described his recent experiences in Iraq, when he unexpectedly became responsible for a collection of Jewish artefacts that had been discovered in the water-logged cellar of an Iraqi Secret Service building.

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An innovative feature of this Conference was a one-on-one "Ask The Experts" session where anyone whose research had hit a "brick wall" could get some help. It required pre-registration with a concisely written definition of the research problem. The consultations were with one of several well-known genealogy experts both professional and non-professional.

Other new events during this conference included a help desk for translations, a Special Interest Groups' (SIGs) Fair and a program of films of interest to the registrants or their accompanying partners. Many of the Special Interest Groups scheduled meetings and luncheons to facilitate networking possibilities.

These groups covered many areas of interest including Belarus, Bohemia-Moravia, Galicia, Germany, Hungary, Kielce-Radom, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Southern Africa, Lodz Area Research Group, Ukraine, Rabbinical Research and the more specialised Birds-of-a-Feather groups for Early America, Grodno, Kremenetz, Rzeszow, Slutsk, Suchostaw, Luboml, Kupishok, Rokiskis, Prussian, and Nowy Sacz.

Volunteers working on the Jewish Records Indexing – Poland project were glad to hear that the trial system for ordering records from Poland through the JRI-Poland site will be expanded soon. The indexing of Polish vital records continues to expand with around 2 million records from 350 towns now being available for searching.

As usual, JewishGen had some exciting releases. A new site, the JewishGen Online Worldwide Burial Registry (JOWBR) aims to centralise cemetery data from around the world. Burial records, tombstone inscriptions and even photographs can be searched at: [www.jewishgen.org/databases/cemetery](http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/cemetery) Following on the success of the All Lithuanian Database, JewishGen has plans to follow it up with other All "Countries" Databases.

An important resource in Washington is the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. As well as the permanent exhibition, the museum was currently hosting a very moving Anne Frank exhibition. For researchers, the extensive Library and Archives were a treasure trove and the helpful staff and volunteers there were appreciated. Handouts from a number of lectures on the Museum are available on the conference CD-Rom.

Other lecturers presented the strategies needed for achieving successful research in other institutions in Washington, New York and elsewhere. In particular, the holdings of the U.S. National Archives, the Institutes at the Center for Jewish

History in New York, the American Red Cross and Yad Vashem were well covered.

These gatherings are always memorable for the personal contacts made and renewed and this was no exception. Our ANZ contingent was small but all enjoyed themselves. From Sydney came Sophie Caplan, David and Diana Laufer, Rieke and Peter Nash, from Melbourne Shirley Lubovsky, from Darwin Bubbles Segall and from Auckland, New Zealand we were glad to meet up with Claire Bruell and her husband, Joe.

(See photo on page 16.)

The conference banquet was addressed by Hadassah Lieberman, wife of Joseph Lieberman, the Presidential candidate. Hadassah, the child of Holocaust survivors was overwhelmed when Valery Bazarov presented her with a copy of her family's immigration file from the archives of HIAS.

At the banquet the IAJGS Awards were presented to:-

Miriam Wiener, the Lifetime Achievement Award for her many years of service to the Jewish genealogical communities and for her publications, in particularly *Jewish Roots in Poland* and *Jewish Roots in Ukraine and Moldova*

Stephen Morse, Outstanding Contribution Award for his one-step web pages

JGS of Montreal, Outstanding Project Award for the indexing of 75,000 names in the Quebec Vital Records

JGS of Palm Beach County, Outstanding Publication Award for their Beginner's Guide.

The Conference concluded with an invitation to all to attend the 24th IAJGS Conference, "Next Year in Jerusalem", to be held July 11-16, 2004 in Jerusalem. See [www.jewishgen.org/jerusalem2004](http://www.jewishgen.org/jerusalem2004)

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#### A TRIBUTE TO LAWRENCE SACK

A very sad event occurred a week after the conference. Lawrence Sack, the husband of founder and editor of AVOTAYNU Sallyann Sack, unexpectedly died at their holiday home on Martha's Vineyard. We have always enjoyed meeting up with Larry over the years and he will be missed. The members of the Society send their condolences to Sallyann and her family.

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*Reports from the President and the Editor will reappear in the next issue of Kosher Koala.*



**The 150 descendants of the Czerniaks of Przedecz, Poland gathered together for a Family Reunion in**

### **CZERNIAK GLASS/COHEN FAMILY TREES**

**By Bernie Freedman**

Share my delight in discovering my new 19th century Polish family tree (shown on pages 6 and 7) completely unknown to anyone in Australia until this year.

The essential background to this story is as follows:

My grandmother Emma Czerniak (the family name changed to Cohen on arrival in England) left Poland in 1864 (at age 6) with her parents to follow her married brothers to England. In 1878 she married Jacob Glass born in Krakow, who had also immigrated to England to accompany his married sister and younger brothers.

In 1879/1881 Emma and Jacob Glass immigrated to Sydney with one son and settled in the mining

town of Bulli (40km south of Sydney), produced nine more children and encouraged their parents, sisters and brothers to join them in Australia.

One hundred and ten years of peace and acceptance has produced the Sydney family reunion photograph taken in 1990 at Centennial Park.

The emotions aroused by the family reunion fed the need to research the earlier family history, so armed with only the family name *Czerniak*, the Polish district of *Posnan* and the shtetl *Przedecz*, I spent two years researching the records at the Church of the Latter Day Saints (Mormons) and found approximately 130 birth, marriage and death certificates from the Posnan province covering the years 1810 to 1880 all relating to the family name *Czerniak*.

The actual shtetls researched were Kolo, Klodowa, Izbica Kujawska, Dabie, Kalisz and Przedecz.

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## CZERNIAK FAMILY OF POSNAN, POLAND



### Centennial Park, in the eastern suburbs of Sydney in 1990.

Then the unexpected happened. The names, dates and relationships sorted themselves into the family structure as shown. The Australian branch of the family is shown in italics. The long branch on the far right side of page 6.

Certainly, this is only the start of the journey to develop a family tree linking the present with the past, but it is the skeleton to be clothed with personal stories of migrations, relationships, achievements, and tragedies.

The breakthrough we are anxious to achieve is a living connection between the Australian branch and any of the other branches on the 19th century tree.

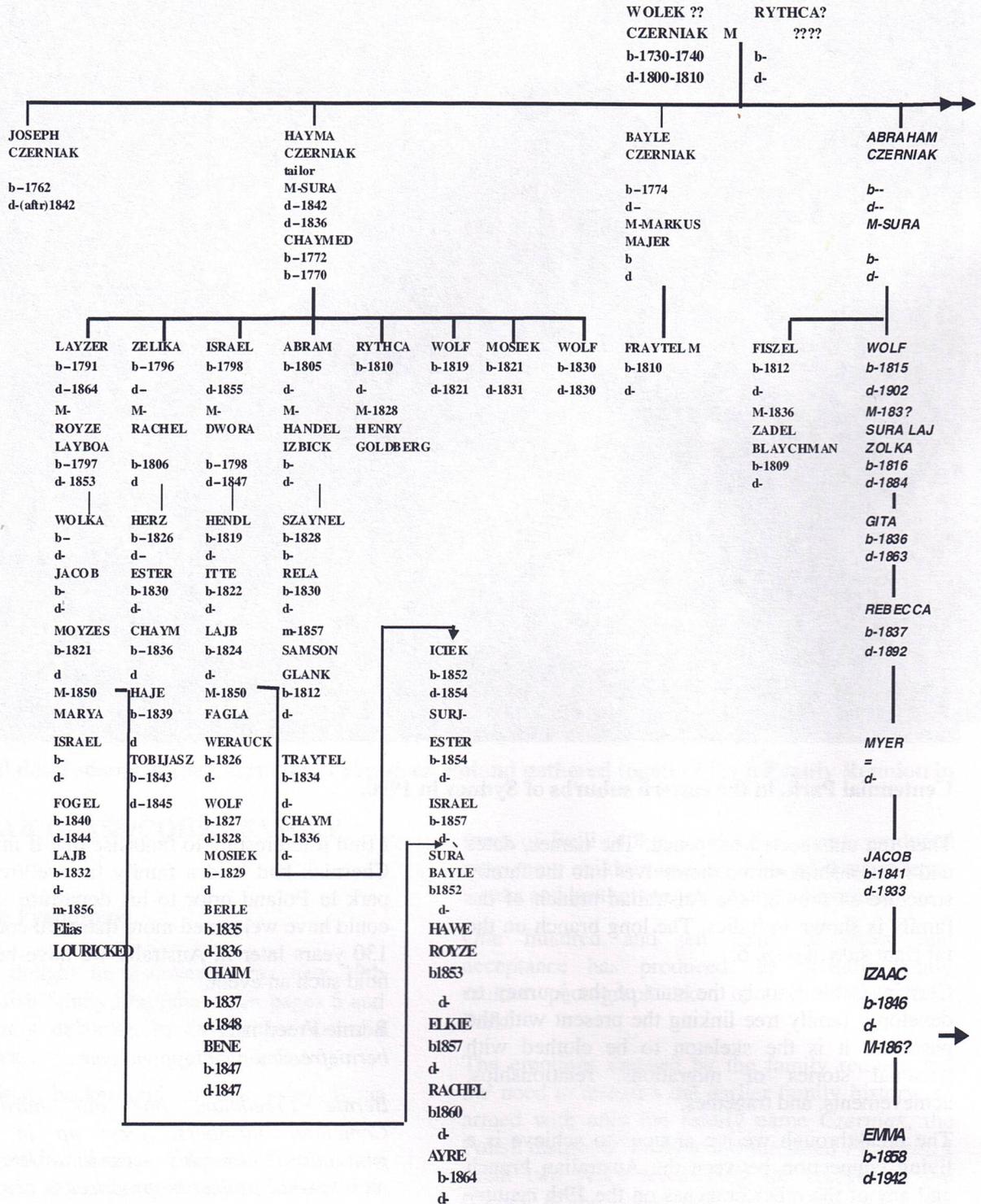
Surely, many family members emigrated from Poland before and after the Holocaust? Many families in America carry the family name *Chernik* but as yet the writer has not found anyone with records of their family tree extending back to the 1860s or to Poland. It will happen.....

I find it interesting to fantasise that if my ggf Wolf Cherniak had held a family farewell/reunion in a park in Poland prior to his departure in 1864, he could have welcomed more than 150 cousins. Now 130 years later in Australia we have been able to hold such an event.

Bernie Freedman.  
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*Bernie Freedman, one our hard working Committee members, grew up in a second generation thoroughly Australian Jewish family. As a special project he produced a computer data bank of all the names in family trees presented and held in the libraries of the AJHS and AJGS which was part of the information sent to all members on our Resource CD, Edition 1, March, 2003. See page 16, KK Vol.10 No.1, March, 2003 and if you would like to read the rest of Bernie's story see page 9, KK Volume 9, No. 2, June 2002.*

GLASS, COHEN AND CZERNIAK FAMILY TREE - Born in POLAND





## ISAAC MOYSE OR MOSES OR MOSS

By Geoff Moss

My Great, Great, Great, Great, Great Grandfather was an Isaac Moses, or was it Moss, or could it have been Moyse, or was he known by all of these surnames?

Finding my GGG Grandfather was relatively easy, he was Isaac Moss, who married Maria Folk (daughter of Samuel and Amelia Folk), in Sydney in October 1842.

Finding my GGGG Grandfather was fairly easy as well. He was Philip Moses Moss, who married Rosetta in 1815, his second marriage. His first marriage in 1812 was to Eve Solomon, who died in 1814. Philip Moses Moss was also known as Uri (nicknamed Feiss) Moss and Philip is known to have had at least two brothers, Elias Moses and Moses Moss.

The father of Philip (Uri), Elias and Moses was an Isaac, who came from Ipswich in County Suffolk, on the eastern most point of England. Evidence exists to support this, mainly through marriage records of his sons.

From here, tracking down more details on Isaac, my GGGGG Grandfather has proven to be much more difficult than I thought, but at the same time very interesting and quite a challenge, especially for someone with limited experience with the methods of researching genealogy. To start, I needed to ensure that I kept very accurate records of my research, as highlighted by a number of researchers recently in Koshers Koala.

A number of other researchers have identified Isaac Moses (Moss) in their family trees but I've been unable to identify any source records, which probably accounts for the lack of specific information about Isaac. A number of Isaac's descendants (Researchers), both here in Australia and in England, have placed Isaac in Ipswich, Suffolk and Bristol, but still little information has been uncovered, in terms of when and where.

Before commencing my research, all I had was a name Isaac Moses, from Ipswich and possibly Bristol, and that he had three sons, but no other details.

Recently, after making contact with Monte Moss from Brisbane, who I believe is my third cousin, twice removed (I think) I had a new lead on this mysterious Isaac. At first I thought this had to be incorrect, as I had been down this path before (searching for a convict ancestor). However, what he said kept niggling away at me, to the point that I

thought maybe there was something. As Monte was so convinced, I decided to go back and have a much more thorough look.

What Monte had told me was, that Isaac Moses was from Ipswich, that he was a Convict and that his name was not actually recorded as Isaac Moss or Isaac Moses. He believed that Isaac had been transported to Australia very early on, in 1792 in fact and had later returned to England in 1818 and died in the UK in 1846. Armed with this information, off I went to the Mitchell and Sydney Reference Libraries and what follows is a chronological sequence of what I uncovered.

On the Convict microfiche (No. 623, page 240) Royal Admiral Indent, I found Isaac Moyse, age 27, sentenced on the 25 March 1789, to seven years at Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk. His sentence was commuted to "Capital Respite" (*meaning - One who is transported instead of suffering the death penalty*). Isaac was one of three charged on the same date at Bury St Edmund, all three sentenced to seven years. All three were held in the prison hulk *Stanislaus* on the River Thames, until they were loaded onto the convict ship *Royal Admiral* and transported to Sydney with the 4th fleet.

Another reference *4th Fleet Families of Australia*, written by Dr C J Smees, published 1992, states that Isaac Moyse, convicted 25 March 1789 from Suffolk, sentence seven years.

Next stop was the Archive Office – in Tape No. 2427 - *Musters and Other Papers – Convict Ships* a different listing is shown to that mentioned above, but the spelling of Isaac Moyse is exactly the same. For the record, Isaac Moyse is listed on three separate lists and was convicted at Bury St Edmunds on the 25 March 1789 and transported with two others (Rueben Parker and Obediah Paxman) of the same crime. All three men were sentenced to seven years and transported to Botany Bay aboard the ship *Royal Admiral* in 1792.

Between 1792 and 1800, no further reference has been found for an Isaac Moyse, Isaac Moses or Isaac Moss in NSW. So what happened to him during this period and what was he doing?

Next I checked for his death between this period and he was not listed.

I checked the *Musters and Lists - NSW and Norfolk Island 1800-1802* and in the Kings List 1801 – *List No. 7 – List of Convicts who have received a Conditional Emancipation*, I found an entry for an Isaac Moss (entry id. - BG167). This Isaac Moss was pardoned by Governor Philip Gidley King. This listing also showed Isaac as remaining in the Colony and his employment was listed as Seaman. Note,

that from this point on, no reference of an Isaac Moyses has been found, so Isaac went by the surname of Moss from this point onwards.

I was aware of another Isaac Moss who had arrived in Sydney in 1800, aboard the same convict ship, the *Royal Admiral*, which had transported Isaac Moyses in 1792. This Isaac Moss however was sentenced to 14 years and remained in the colony until his death in 1832, aged 73. It's highly unlikely that he would have received a pardon from Governor King on a 14-year sentence in January of 1801, after having only arrived the year before (ie. 1800).

In a search of Lesley Uebel's Convict databases, in the *Convict Names and in the Conditional Pardons (1791-1825)* sections, I found Isaac Moyses (Moss), who was listed as being from Suffolk, sentenced to seven years, at Bury St Edmunds and was granted a conditional pardon on the 18 January 1801. This is the only reference I've found to date, that links the surnames Moyses and Moss together. Moss was included in brackets, following Moyses.

So maybe Isaac Moyses went by the name of Isaac Moss and is the one listed as receiving conditional pardon in 1801 from Governor Philip Gidley King, after all. Lesley Uebel's Convict database certainly confirms this theory.

Still being doubtful, I emailed Lesley Uebel, who kindly responded and indicated that she was 98% certain that Isaac Moyses and Isaac Moss were one and the same, after having gone through all the convict arrivals and having found no other likely match.

While at the Sydney Reference library I came across a book, *Our ForeFathers" – A Dictionary of Biography of the Jews of Australia 1788-1830*, by John Simon Levi (published in 1977). Having seen this book before at the AJGS library, I checked it out again and found an entry for ISAAC MOSES, sentenced at Bury St, Edmunds, 25 March 1789, 7 years transportation. Arrived NSW per *Royal Admiral* October 1792. Permitted to leave NSW, June 1818 (reference - Sydney Gazette 30-5-1818).

Having found this entry in Levi's book, I'm now convinced that Isaac was known by three different surnames.

Further research at the Mitchell library has revealed that Isaac, upon receiving his conditional pardon, signed on a number of ships operating out of Sydney, as a seaman. These ships included the schooner *Brothers*, departing Sydney 17 August 1811 and again 30 November 1811, the brig *Governor Macquarie* departing Sydney on 26 June 1813, 11 March 1815, 4 November 1815 and 9 December 1815, the ship *Rosetta* departing Sydney in 1816. There was a seaman, listed in the ship's log

as Mosee, who signed onboard the ship *King George*, departing Sydney 8 February 1817 for the South Seas and return. Isaac next signed on the 57 ton Brig *Endeavour*, departing Sydney on 24 April 1817, 6 September 1817 and 11 October 1817. The Brig *Endeavour*, according to the ship's log, was operating in Bass Strait and Kangaroo Island, in search of Oil fish.

Isaac finally departed the colony in 23 July 1818 aboard the brig *Lynx of Calcutta*, as indicated in the Sydney Gazette on the 23 and 30 May 1818. This *Lynx* was a 187 ton trading ship, known to carry Whale Oil and Whale bone amongst other cargo and operated between Australia, New Zealand and India. On this trip, according to the ship's muster of Mates, Crews and Passengers, the destination was Calcutta, India and aboard was a crew of 21 and 5 passengers. Isaac was listed as a Passenger. The exact reference in the log reads – *Isaac Moss – discharge from the Endeavour – came thru in the Elizabeth Barker* (no record of a ship by this name has been found, so far).

A more general search of the name Moyses appears to indicate it's of French origin and appears to have been a fairly common Jewish name in France during the 1700's and 1800's. So maybe Isaac Moyses or his ancestors came from France, possibly was born there, and as Suffolk is on the east coast, travelled to Suffolk and got into some trouble. This is all conjecture, unsupported by any evidence.

References from other researchers have placed Isaac at Bungay, Suffolk, which is right on the east coast of England, about 30 miles from Bury St Edmund (source – *My Family* by Herbert Walford). Also, Michael Sayer from England has recorded in his family history research that Isaac was from Ipswich, but also lived in Bristol, at some stage.

As Isaac was convicted and sentenced at Bury St Edmund in Suffolk, and held in the prison hulk on the Thames, his wife and three sons probably followed him, moved from Suffolk to London and remained there until his departure. The *Royal Admiral* departed London on the 30 May 1792 reaching Port Jackson on Sunday 7 October 1792. The aim of this voyage was to transport both male and female convicts to Port Jackson and then proceed to China to load tea for the voyage back home.

<sup>5</sup> Perhaps, Isaac's wife and sons then moved onto Bristol, after Isaac's ship departed London for Port Jackson and they may have returned to London, upon Isaac's return to England in 1818/19. Perhaps Isaac went straight to Bristol to meet his family, though there is no evidence to support this theory.

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All of Isaac's sons are known to have lived and prospered in London, all involved in the Rag trade.

It was Isaac Moyse grandsons (sons of Philip Moses Moss), who came to Sydney around 1841, who married Maria Folk in Sydney at the Synagogue in October 1842. Isaac Moss, I believe came to Australia via New Zealand, aboard the ship *Dianna* in 1841, but it is possible he arrived in Australia earlier than 1841.

Isaac's brothers Lewis and Henry Moss both migrated to New Zealand and I wonder whether it was their grandfather Isaac Moyse, his convict sea going adventures and stories that prompted them to immigrate to Australia and New Zealand.

So after all this research, the evidence uncovered indicates that Isaac Moyse (Moses or Moss) born around 1765, was convicted in 1789, aged 27, transported to Botany Bay, Australia, in 1792 with the 4th fleet, served his time and received a Conditional Pardon in 1801. Once free, Isaac worked as a seaman aboard a number of coastal fishing and trading ships, before eventually departing Sydney in July 1818 as a passenger and returned to England in late 1818. Isaac is believed to have died around 1846, aged 71.

Then a showstopper comes along and blows most of the above research out of the water. My Auntie Gail from Cairns, who started genealogy research about 16 years ago, has discovered that Isaac Moyse died aboard the *Royal Admiral*, on the 15 September 1792, half way across the Indian Ocean. There were many deaths from fever aboard the *Royal Admiral*, which was also to have an impact on the settlement, after the *Royal Admiral* arrived at Port Jackson.

Details are available from the following link, which contains details of the deaths from the Ship's Log - <http://www.ihr.com.au/royalad2.html>

Having researched Isaac's life thus far, raises more questions: Where was he born? Who did he marry? Did he only have three sons? What was his crime?

If you are related to this Isaac and have any further details on him, please get in touch, I'd love to hear from you.

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*Geoff Moss, is a new member of our Society. He has shown great resourcefulness and determination in pursuing all aspects of his research, and in creating his own Family Tree computer program which he presented at our Waverley Library Meeting on Different Approaches to Documenting Your Research. (And he is a 5th cousin to my husband, Joe Shifreen through his Levy branch. Ed)*

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## MY GRANDFATHER – PETER SOLOMON A country tale - Part 3 - Conclusion

By Dennis Leonard

### The Children of Peter and Fanny Solomon

Peter and Fanny had five children - all born in Bombala. They all survived their country upbringing:

The eldest, Rachael, born in 1892, later became famous for travelling around the countryside establishing C.W.A.'s (Country Women's Associations), including one in Bombala.

New & Notes (N&N) which were usually found on page 2 of The Bombala Times (Est. 1863, and which merged with The Bombala Herald 1911) reported on 18/12/1925 *Mrs Victor Cornfield [that is Rachel Solomon, the eldest daughter] is on a visit here with the intention of forming a branch of the Country Women's Association meeting at School of Arts December 19th at 3pm...*

and

on 25/12/1911 on p.3 CWA: *a meeting (was) convened by Mrs Victor Cornfield J. P., a member of the executive of the Cumberland branch...*

Maurice, born in 1893, obviously did not possess his father's business acumen as one of the few records I found was of his bankruptcy in 1925. Family rumour has it that he was a gambler who was finally banished to Western Australia by his father.

Joseph was born in 1897 and, until ill-health intervened, he was a storekeeper in Campbelltown, south-west of Sydney.

The next two children were girls - Isobel born in 1900 and Ettie (Ethel) born in 1902. In common with most women of the time, they didn't have specific careers, their occupation being noted on the electoral rolls as domestic duties.

*8263 Solomon, Fanny, 31 Cook Rd, (Centennial Park), home duties, F*

*8265 Solomon, Isobel, 31 Cook Rd, home duties, F*

Ettie later helped run the general store in Bombala, which was established by her father-in-law in 1905 and inherited by her husband, Julius.

The final member of the family was Phillip, born in 1904, who obviously inherited his father's business head, running a general store in Campbelltown and eventually retiring to the city where amongst his many activities he was president of the Great Synagogue 1972-75.

The electoral rolls show the children reaching voting age and later leaving home.

## Back to the "Big Smoke"

In 1907 Peter decided to return to Sydney permanently, giving as a reason, ill-health. This is ironical since he lived for another forty years, dying in 1948. He is described on the Electoral rolls from then on as of *independant means*. His income from then on revolved around property investment and mortgages

### 1925 Electoral role

8270 Solomon, Peter 31 Cook Rd, Sydney, *indep. means, M.*

But he revisited Bombala at least twice. At his first visit in 1910, the Local and General news reported on 3 May, *Mr P. Solomon who had a storekeeping business here for a number of years is on a visit to Bombala. He is accompanied by his wife.*

and

when he visited in 1925, there was a report on 3/4/1925 stating that *Mr. Jacob Leonard, at the age of 46, died in the Bombala Hospital on Monday at midday ...The service according to the Jewish religion was read by Mr. P. Solomon, who came from Sydney as soon as he heard of Mr. Leonard's serious illness, and was with the family to give them what comfort could be afforded by their religion.*

Peter was a founder of the Central Synagogue, Sydney, a board member from 1912 to 1917, President in 1918 and on the board again in 1919 according to D.J. Benjamin *Australian Jewish Historical Society Journal* Vol. 2, pt 10, pp 513-23. *Orach Chaim: A Way of Life - a history of the Central Synagogue* by Jones & Lutman (State Library of NSW Press, 2000) notes on p36, that he resigned in April 1919 (but gives no reason) and that he rejoined the board again from 1923 to 1928

**Problem:** Why did he help found the Central Synagogue - after being a member of the Great Synagogue? The need for another Synagogue seems to have been recognised by *Orach Chaim: A Way of Life*, as the Great Synagogue assisted in its formation.

### The Last Years

In 1930 Peter and Fanny moved to 67 Kings Road, Vaucluse, Sydney. They celebrated their Golden Wedding in 1939.

**Peter & Fanny Solomon**



It was noted on 1/12/1939 L&G: *Old Bombala friends will join in hearty congratulations to Mr and Mrs Peter Solomon of Vaucluse who celebrated their Golden Wedding on 22 November at home of Mr and Mrs S. Lesnie...also present were Mr and Mrs J. Leonard (Bombala)*

In 1940, Fanny died during an operation. On 15/3/1940 L&G stated *General sympathy will be felt for Mrs J. Leonard, of Bombala, whose mother, Mrs Peter Solomon, died unexpectedly in a private hospital in Sydney on Tuesday after a few days illness. Mr & Mrs Leonard were in Sydney at the time. Other members of the family are Mrs V. Cornfield, Mrs Sid Lesnie, Joseph and Phillip, with another son, Maurice, deceased. The funeral took place at the Jewish cemetery, Rookwood on Wednesday.*

In 1946 Peter married Elisabeth Entwistle with whom he lived at 158 Bellevue Road, Double Bay until his death in 1948. The Bombala Times said on 8/10/1948 p.1 **Obituary - MR. PETER SOLOMON** - *Passed away at a private hospital, Vaucluse, on Friday last, 1st October, Mr. Peter Solomon, of 158 Bellevue Road, Double Bay, and formerly a well known and respected identity of Bombala. The late Mr. Solomon, who was 79 years of age, had not been in good health for some time. He was the father of Mrs. J. Leonard of this town, who will have the special sympathy of her wide circle of local friends in her bereavement. In earlier times he conducted one of Bombala's leading businesses for a good many years, now known as Goldberg Bros. & Co., disposing of his interests and retiring to Sydney about 42 years ago. Through the years he maintained contact with the old town by periodical personal visits. In his Bombala days the Manchester Unity Oddfellows Lodge was one of his special interests and he was generally well respected for integrity and his goodwill. He is survived by the wife of his second marriage, three daughters - Mrs. V. Cornfield, Mrs. S. Lesnie and Mrs. J. Leonard - and two sons, Joseph and Phillip. One son (Morris) predeceased him. There are nine grand children.*

*Dennis Leonard the Editor of a philately magazine can be contacted at: [drl@bigpond.net.au](mailto:drl@bigpond.net.au)*

### FRED MEADOWS

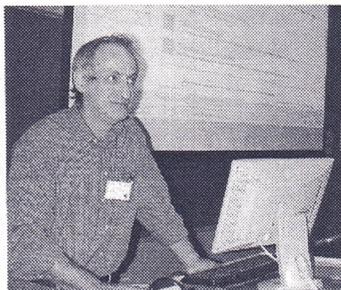
We extend our condolences to Julie Meadows and her family on the recent loss of her husband, Fred. Fred was in Sydney only just recently when he accompanied Julie who was presenting our workshops on *Writing Your Family Stories*. Many of us were lucky to have had the chance to get to know Fred

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE STATES NEWS FROM N.S.W.

By Steven Traurig

The Limmud Oz Festival of Jewish Learning and Culture was made all the richer this year by a strong showing by the AJGS. Limmud Oz is a two-day conference with local and international presenters speaking on many diverse topics such as "The Image of the Jews in the Koran", "The PLO At The Crossroads" and "Midrash: A Journey Into The World Of The Rabbinic Imagination". At all times throughout the 2 days, there at least 12 lecture streams and workshops being attended by over 500 enthusiastic delegates.

The AJGS's effort was shared amongst committee members – all of whom gave their time to assist during the weekend - and amongst a number of valuable helpers who likewise made sure that our Society was well



*Presentation by Gary Luke*

represented and our stand well attended. They were Bernie Freedman, Evelyn Frybort, Sunny Gold, Glenda Goldberg, Gael Hammer, David Laufer, Gary Luke, Peter Nash, Rieke Nash, Kim Phillips, Miriam Shifreen, Steve Traurig, Jeannette Tsoulos and of course Melbourne's Lionel Sharpe.

We were given space to set up a stall in the main cafeteria area, which we did to the backdrop of a terrific AJGS banner that sports the Kosher Koala emblem. Across two tables we had some books from the AJGS resources library, such as "Where Once We Walked", CD's, plenty of membership forms, and, other interesting items for perusal. Most significantly, we had available our "Golden Secret" – the country-by-country Jewish Genealogy Resources folders prepared by our President Rieke Nash and her helpers. This collection of over 30 folders contains information, articles, internet links, references and many other tidbits of information for all regions and many countries across the globe and was the culmination of months of work.

This valuable resource enabled any of us who were talking to Limmud Oz delegates at our stand to present a comprehensive summary of how the AJGS can assist anyone interested in Jewish Genealogy.

AJGS was allocated four lecture slots on Sunday after-noon. There were two 1-hour presentations, inter-spersed with two 1-hour Open Forums. The lectures were entitled "Our European Ancestors and

their Paper Trail", and "Internet or Inter Not". The open forums, which were the first and last slots, were called "Family Research – Ask The Experts".

The first two slots were well attended by a mixed audience, with over 20 additional delegates apart from the full force of AJGS members! The facilities were excellent with our lecturers Peter Nash, Rieke Nash, and Gary Luke able to make use of a speedy online connection to the internet coupled with overhead projectors for presentations.

The next two hours were largely spent assisting delegates who had queries – some beginner and some advanced - but all with the common interest of tracing their families. Our resident experts – particularly David Laufer with his extensive knowledge on Bohemia-Moravia (which seemed to be an area of intense interest by more than a few delegates), and Lionel Sharpe from AJGS Victoria, with his particular knowledge of Public Records collections - culminated in six new Memberships being signed "on-the-spot"; a welcome side-effect of the efforts of all involved.

With such a great show of enthusiastic AJGS volunteers to help out at the stand and seminars, most of us were at some time during the weekend able to break away and attend other lectures of personal interest. Of particular interest and popularity were the lectures given by Israeli journalist Danny Rubinstein, an expert and biographer on Yasser Arafat and the PLO.



*Lionel Sharpe, on the left, with Sydney Members*

Thanks go to Gary Luke and Rieke Nash for organising this event, all her Committee team, and all the valuable helpers and members who contributed their time and effort in attending the stand, helping with logistics, assisting interested delegates (and anyone else within earshot) with their genealogical research enquiries, and bringing a very visible enthusiasm about Australian Jewish Genealogy to the conference.

steve@globalise.com.au

*Steven Traurig is a Committee member responsible for setting up our Website with Gary Luke.*

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## REPORT FROM VICTORIA

By Lionel Sharpe

The 5th Annual General Meeting was held on Wednesday 21st May at the Beth Weizmann Jewish Community Centre. The following were elected to the Committee of Management

President: Les Oberman

Vice-President: Enid Yoffa-Elton

Treasurer: Kurt Friedlaender

Secretary: Lionel Sharpe

Committee: Rodney Eislefeldt, Dr David Cohen,

Lewis Coleman and Bettye Susskind

Makor Liaison: Leonie Fleiszig

Two new committee members, Simone Beyfus and Donna Purchase, have since been co-opted.

Guest speaker at the AGM was Lionel Sharpe who spoke on the topic *The Chazan of Coolgardie*, outlining his research into Joseph H. Myslis, a very religious Jew, who arrived from Hebron and settled in Carlton in the 1880s. He moved eventually with his family to the goldfields of Western Australia in the 1890s and died in Perth.

Joseph's granddaughter, Venie Holmgren nee Rich, travelled from Pambula on the NSW coast especially for the talk and presented Makor Library with the book of poems she has written about her mother Pearl, *Among the Sepias*. Also present at the meeting was great granddaughter, Joanna and her husband, Michael Herrmann who flew from Sydney for the occasion. Joanna is the daughter of Flora and Gordon Rich of Perth.

An evening tour was arranged to visit the Helen McPherson Smith Genealogical Centre at the State Library of Victoria on May 14th. Anne Burrows introduced thirteen members to the resources available at the newly expanded centre.

Marjorie Luno, the President of the S.A. Branch of the AJGS was invited to our committee meeting in April where we shared matters of mutual concern. Again in May we participated at the LDS Open day at Braeside receiving many enquiries about Jewish ancestry. Lionel Sharpe, Secretary participated at Limmud Oz in Sydney on 8 June, guest of the AJGS, Sydney.

At our June 25 meeting Ephraim Finch, Director of the Melbourne Chevra Kadisha, spoke on the topic *Downunder but Not Forgotten* - the story of the transfer of the graves from the old Harrington Jewish Cemetery in the city of Hobart to the Jewish Section of the Cornelian Bay Cemetery.

A number of members of the Society, including three committee members, joined the Australian Jewish Historical Society's historical weekend in Hobart, 23rd - 26th May, for the Dedication

Ceremony at this cemetery conducted by Rabbi Dr John Levi on 25 May. That same day, a new book - *A Few from Afar: Jewish Lives in Tasmania from 1804*, edited by Peter and Ann Elias, was launched at the Hobart Hebrew Congregation by His Excellency, the Administrator of the Commonwealth of Australia, Sir Guy Green.

A Beginner's workshop was held on Sunday 6 July. Les Oberman, presented an online demonstration: *Exploring your Ancestry on the Internet*, on Wednesday, 23 July, utilising a data projector. The Society has purchased a used computer to be located permanently at Beth Weizmann Community Centre.

The September meeting will be held on Tuesday, 2 September at 7.30 pm at Beth Weizmann. There are two speakers: Dr Peter Elias will discuss *A Few From Afar - Jewish lives in Tasmania from 1804*, the new book he edited with his wife, Ann. Simone Beyfus will speak about her own research: *Skeletons in the Family Tree*.

Following the retirement of Beverley Davis OAM as honorary archivist of the Australian Jewish Historical Society in Victoria the AJGS (Vic) has taken over all genealogical records, microfilm and microfiche, acquired by the AJHS over many years. The Society wishes her well as she moves on to other worthy activities. A microfilm reader and printer as well as a microfiche reader have also been handed over to us by the AJHS and will be located at the Makor Library.

Enquiries: Lionel Sharpe (03)9523 6738

ajgs@exist.com.au

Les Oberman (03)9571 8251

oberman@mira.net

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## CANBERRA CORNER

By Sylvia Deutsch

While things have been quiet on the meetings front the collection of genealogical material held in Canberra continues to grow. The annual subscription to Avotaynu has kindly been renewed through the Sydney AJGS and other journals are received routinely through the generosity of fellow Jewish genealogical societies, including *Jewish Genealogy Downunder* from our colleagues in Victoria. Other material has been received through the generosity of AJGS founder Sophie Caplan OAM, such as *Dublins' Little Jerusalem*, an account of Dublin Jewry by Nick Harris (A&A Farmar, Dublin, 2002). Sophie has also kindly donated CDs and pamphlets from the recent IAJGS conference held in Washington.

Harris' account includes an interesting Australian connection. He refers to the young Max Nurock, a

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brilliant young Jewish student at Trinity College, who became an academic, served in the British Army during World War II and then immigrated to Palestine where he played a major part in establishing the civil service. He was honoured later by the Israeli government by being appointed Ambassador to Australia. (p.133).

In fact Mordekhai Nurock, as he was known by then, served as Israel's diplomatic representative to Australia from 1955-1959. The legation was situated in Room 403, 84 Pitt St., Sydney, not yet having the status of an embassy. Nurock was a strong proponent of moving Israel's mission to the national capital, and laid the foundation stone for the embassy in 1958, although he returned to Israel before the embassy was completed. The first Ambassador to occupy the new Embassy was his successor Mr. Moshe Yuval.

*Enquiries: Sylvia Deutsch*

*Tel:02-6248-6196*

*Fax:02-6257-3631*

*deutand@ozemail.com.au*

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#### **REPORT FROM SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

**By Marjorie Luno**

Hilde Hines, our founding president has been awarded the Centenary Medal for her long service to the Jewish community of S.A. In Israel she received the Yakir Keren Hayasod Award for her work in the Diaspora as Guardians of Israel. Only three of these medals are issued worldwide every year - so it was a great honour.

Our first meeting this year was purely business – with our small membership all members are on the committee. As a now autonomous group, we discussed forming a combined genealogical and historical group, as they have done in Perth We might attract more members as there is no historical Society in Adelaide. A decision is to be made next year.

We do not have anyone to conduct workshops on a regular basis, but Myra Wadell arranged for a room at Seniors-on-Line where we each had a computer and Diana Terry took us through a range of Search Sites.

After a short AGM, our guest speaker was Gary Rogers, a Kindertransport child. He showed us some film clips, one of which showed him as a boy of fourteen walking down the gangplank in England. Fortunately, he was copying the film onto tape, as he did not expect to see himself.

We visited the South Australian Genealogy and Heraldry Society with its extensive collection, and on 26th August we are to have a privately guided tour of our State Library which has been closed for two years for extensive modelling renovations

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In November a visitor from the U.S. will tell us about his family research and we have some interesting meetings lined up for next year.

*The South Australian Branch contact is Marjorie Luno, President,*

*AJGS (SA), c/- Beit Shalom Synagogue, P.O. Box 47, Stepney. S.A. 5069*

*Email to Hon. Secretary : Jeanie Susman chatsworth@picknowl.com.au*

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#### **JEWES OF LITHUANIAN ORIGIN (Including Latvians and Courlanders)**

The story of the Lithuanian Jewish migration to South Africa is now beginning to be told by several scholars. One gap is the "out migration" of Jews of Lithuanian origin from South Africa to places like Australia and New Zealand especially those with both Lithuanian and South African connections. We are interested in what you or your parents know or knew of their origins, dates and places of birth, occupations in Europe, era of their migration and their reasons.

Contact Prof Colin Tatz and Dr Peter Arnold at:

peter@arnold.name

or AJGS

Tel: (612) 9327.4024 FAX: (612) 9327.4026

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#### **JEWISH CHRONICLE (UK) PROJECT**

Miriam Pollak, AJGS member, who has transcribed more than 22,000 entries covering the years 1900 – 1906, can be reached at

miriam\_pollak@hotmail.com

For more details See KK Vol. 8 No.3 September, 2001 and Vol. 10 No.1 March 2003.

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#### **GERMANS TO RECEIVE JEWISH HISTORY AWARDS.**

The German-Jewish Community History Council will be giving Obermayer German Jewish History Awards for the fourth year, to a number of Germans who have made extraordinary contributions to preserving the Jewish history, culture, cemeteries and synagogues in their local communities. The awards, will be given in the Plenary Chamber of the Berlin Parliament on January 27, 2004, the German Holocaust Memorial Day (the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz). Jews throughout the world may nominate German individuals who, in many cases, have devoted their lifetimes to such important endeavours.

See: <http://www.obermayer.us/award>.

Email: [germanaward@hotmail.com](mailto:germanaward@hotmail.com), or write: German-Jewish Community History Council, 239 Chestnut Street, West Newton, MA 02465 USA. Nominations close **September 22, 2003.**

Arthur S. Obermayer, Chairman

tel: 617-244-0180 fax: 617-244-2496

## Office Bearers of the Society

President	<i>Rieke Nash</i>
Treasurer	<i>Gary Luke</i>
Secretary	<i>Jeannette Tsoulos</i>
Resources Librarian	<i>Jeannette Tsoulos</i>
Minutes Secretary	<i>Peter Nash</i>
Webmasters	<i>Gary Luke &amp; Steve Taurig</i>
Committee	<i>Bernard Freedman</i> <i>Kim Phillips</i> <i>Peter Nash</i> <i>Helena Rule</i>
Program Co-ordinator	<i>Peter Nash</i>
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Queensland Representative	<i>Morris Ochert</i>
Sth Australia Representative	<i>Marjorie Luno</i>
West Australia Representative	<i>Michelle Urban</i>

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**Web site: [www.ajgs.org.au](http://www.ajgs.org.au)**

**A Happy New Year to you all!**

## SYDNEY WORKSHOPS

All workshops are usually held at the Rev Katz Library, North Shore Synagogue, Treatts Road, Lindfield, once a month on Sunday mornings, from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. See front page for dates.

Articles and material may be submitted to the Editor at: P.O.Box 42 Lane Cove NSW 1595

Sydney, Australia

Or by email: [editor@ajgs.org.au](mailto:editor@ajgs.org.au)

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## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

### New South Wales

Graham de Vahl Davis	Rosalind and Jack Fisher
George and Margaret Foster	
Graeme Friedman	David Lewis
Michael Marks	Rose Mautner
Ronalyn Nichols	Peter Philippsohn
Lyon Robinson	Sheryl Wright

### Victoria

Olga Baltikalis	Elaine Bourne
Ruth Goldtwig	Sarah and Jules Hoffman
Noreen Maher,	Norman Rich
Maurice Rosner	Margot Schwab
Raymond Spitz MBE	Sylvia Zuzowska

## INTERNATIONAL JGS CONFERENCES

**24th INTERNATIONAL JEWISH  
GENEALOGICAL CONFERENCE  
Renaissance Hotel, Jerusalem, Israel  
July 11 – 16, 2004**

**<http://www.jewishgen.org/jerusalem2004>**

Las Vegas – 2005

CONFERENCE BANQUET, WASHINGTON DC, JULY 2003



Joe Bruell (N.Z.) Diana Laufer, Claire Bruell (N.Z.) Rieke Nash, Bubbles Segall (Darwin)  
David Laufer, Sophie Caplan, Rebbetzen Shirley Lubofsky (Melbourne), Peter Nash

AUSTRALIAN JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY DATABASE

Names being researched by our new members

September, 2003

Id	Surname	Town	Country	Dates
521	ABRAHAMS	LONDON	ENGLAND	c. 1780s
528	AFFRIATT	LONDON	ENGLAND	c. 1810s
528	AFFRIATT		ALGERIA	Pre 1810
528	AFFRIATT		AUSTRALIA	Post 1833
521	ALVARANGO	LONDON	ENGLAND	c. 1780s
521	ANDERSON	LONDON	ENGLAND	c. 1780s
521	ANDERSON	MELBOURNE	AUSTRALIA	1862
516	COHEN	LONDON	ENGLAND	To 1886
520	COHEN	WHITECHAPEL	ENGLAND	c 1792
520	COHEN	LONDON	ENGLAND	To 1827
521	DAVIS	LONDON	ENGLAND	c. 1790s
529	DAVIS	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	c. 1800s
516	FOLK	LONDON	ENGLAND	To 1833
516	FOLK	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	Post 1833
516	HARRIS	LONDON	ENGLAND	To 1850
516	HARRIS	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	Post 1850
521	JAFFA	MELBOURNE	AUSTRALIA	1862
516	LEVEY	LONDON	ENGLAND	To 1830s
516	LEVEY	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	Post 1830s
516	LEVY	LONDON	ENGLAND	To 1830s
516	LEVY	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	Post 1830s
516	MARKS	LONDON	ENGLAND	To 1849
516	MARKS	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	Post 1849
528	MOSES	LONDON	ENGLAND	c. 1810s
516	MOSS	LONDON	ENGLAND	To 1842
516	MOSS	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	Post 1841
516	PHILLIPS	LONDON	ENGLAND	To 1850
516	PHILLIPS	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	Post 1850
521	PHILLIPS	LONDON	ENGLAND	c. 1790s
529	PHILLIPS	LONDON	ENGLAND	Pre 1850
529	PHILLIPS	SYDNEY	AUSTRALIA	Post 1850